



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR



2050 Hammonds Plains Road
Hammonds Plains, NS
B4B 1P3

May 2022, Volume 83 Number 5

club web site is www.halifax-arc.org

ALTHOUGH COVID RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED WE WILL STILL BE MEETING VIRTUALLY

HARC Club Station phone number - 902-490-6421

Executive

President - Brian Allen, VA1CC	489-4656	basailor@eastlink.ca
First V.P. - Jason Ingraham, VE1PYE	292-9924	VE1PYE@bellaliant.net
2nd V.P. - Ritchie Long, VE1RL	496-0779	VE1RPL@gmail.com
Secretary - Roger Stein, VA1RST	403-3738	burch.craft@gmail.com
Treasurer - Bill Simm, VA1ALW		williamrham@live.ca
Member-at-Large: -John Bignell, VE1JMB		johnmbignell@gmail.com
Station Manager: - Don Trotter, VE1DTR		don_trotter@hotmail.com
Past President - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca
Director Emeritus - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Government & Media Relations - Gary Murphy VA1GGM	461-9416	garygmpurphy@gmail.com
QSL Bureau Mgr - Roger Stein, VA1RST	403-3738	burch.craft@gmail.com
EMO Coordinator - David George, VE1AJP	466-8723	dgeorge@dal.ca
EMO Trailer coordinator - VACANT		
Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT	865-8567	bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca
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Web site content Manager - John Bignell, VE1JMB		johnmbignell@gmail.com
Basic ham course - Jason Ingraham, VE1PYE	292-9924	VE1PYE@bellaliant.net
2022 Flea Market Chair - John Bignell, VE1JMB		johnmbignell@gmail.com
2022 Field Day Coordinator Vacant		
Safety Officer - Malcolm MacDonald, VA1MMD		malcolmmd1@gmail.com
VA1MMA Project Manager - Dick Grantham, VE1AI		rgrantham@ns.sympatico.ca
NSARA Director - Jason Ingraham, VE1PYE	292-9924	VE1PYE@bellaliant.net
Honorary Legal Counsel - Paul Radford, VE1ARH		

Non Club Contacts

RAC Atlantic Director - Al Penny, VO1NO	dir.atlantic@rac.ca
RAC Section Manager - Dave Hull, VE1HUL	d.hull@ns.sympatico.ca
RAC Assistant Director for HRM - John Bignell, VE1JMB	johnmbignell@gmail.com

Take-15 Net Controllers

This will be the rotation. **We need more net controllers.**
If you want to join, let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.



April 17	Bill	VA1ALW
April 24	Cam	VE1BIT
May 1	Bill	VA1ALW
May 8	Cam	VE1BIT
May 15	Bill	VA1ALW

ATTENTION

We are in desperate need of net controllers. The executive is very disappointed that more HATS members have not volunteered to do this simple task. The net generally takes about 20 minutes on a Sunday evening and is excellent practice for running an emergency net. Contact Bill, VE1MR if you want to join the list: bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

All phone numbers must be preceded by area code 902 when dialling, unless otherwise indicated

The May 2022 General Meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday May 18 at 1900. The method (**virtual**) and time will be sent in an e-mail. Check your e-mail for details as the date approaches. Also check the web site for any other updates. Entertainment: Cam, VE1BIT on how to solar power your station. **Guests are welcome but need to send an e-mail to the club to be on the ZOOM invitee list.**

Do you have pictures, interesting or funny radio-related story, article or news you would like to share via the HARC Reflector? Please send it/them to Lynn at bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca
Please show "For Reflector" on the "Subject" line so I don't miss it. Thanks!.-ed

Deadline for submissions to the June 2022 Reflector is Saturday June 4, 2022

GENERAL INFORMATION



Sunday evenings:
TAKE-15 NET at 8:30 PM

CLUB REPEATERS:

VE1PSR - 147.270 MHz + TX=82.5
VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +
VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -
access and TX tone 151.4 Hz
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz - TX=82.5

PACKET: VE1NSD 145.050 MHz
LAN NODE

Due to the global pandemic most if not all events have been cancelled. See page 2 for coming events. With the lifting of restrictions this month you will start to see events posted on this page and following pages.

Event for Your Calendar

June 4th - the Halifax ARC Flea Market will be held at The Royal Canadian Legion, 45 Sackville Cross Road, Lower Sackville.

June 11 – 13 ARRL June VHF contest.

<http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

June 25, 26 – ARRL Field Day, a Co-ordinator is needed.

SPECIAL NOTICE for the May General Meeting

There will be a presentation to Jack Leahy's (VE1ZZ) family by Al Penney, VO1NO representing RAC. We are going to do this presentation with the family, Al, myself and a couple of other executive members at the club during the virtual general meeting via zoom to all others. Please read about Jack's life in radio and let it be an inspiration to all of us.

Brian, VA1CC President – HARC

Special Event "Prefix"

In honour of Queen Elizabeth II's 70 years on the throne (her Platinum Jubilee), Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) has approved the use of special call signs for Canadian hams from **May 15 to July 14, 2022**. These dates correspond with the busy early summer operating season and will be available to all Canadian amateurs who wish to use the special call signs on all occasions, including ARRL Field Day, the June VHF Contest, the RAC Canada Day Contest, and the IARU World Championship.

VE1 = VX1 VA1 = VG1

THE HALIFAX ARC FLEA MARKET

WHEN – Saturday June 4th 2022

WHERE- Same location as last one
The Royal Canadian Legion
45 Sackville Cross Road, Lower
Sackville

TIME

Sellers may set up after 8 AM
Buyers allowed in after 10 AM

GENERAL ADMISSION

Buyer - \$5.00
Seller - \$10.00

Which includes a 3' X 6' selling space - some with power

Space is limited so book your table as soon as possible.

Contact John Bignell
VE1JMB@johnmbignell.ca
Phone : 902-223-1945

Buyer entrance tickets will be pre-sold before 10 AM

Talk in frequency 146.970 - /
146.685 - VE1CDN / VE1PKT

The VE1-VE0 QSL Bureau will be in attendance at the HARC Flea Market June 4th in Lower Sackville.

This will be an opportunity to:

1. Pick up your QSL cards on file.
2. Update your contact information.
3. Declare "YES" I want QSL cards received through the Bureau QSL system OR
4. Declare "NO" I do not want any cards through the Bureau and be removed from the system.
5. Check your account for \$\$ on hand and top up accordingly.
6. Sign-up for the Bureau services.

I look forward to meeting you in person!

73, Roger VA1RST
QSL Bureau Manager

HELP

While John, VE1JMB is the Flea Market co-ordinator he will need people to help out especially on the Saturday June 4. Some of the jobs are: pre opening ticket sales for buyers, door opening ticket sales for buyers, seller ticket sales, security, table co-ordination and some others. With many volunteers one person does not have to spend too much time doing a particular job and can have time to shop or sell as well. Please contact John at johnmbignell@gmail.com

A fall arrest course is currently scheduled for May 28 if there is enough interest. Anyone wanting fall arrest training should contact Safety Officer

Malcolm MacDonald, VA1MMD
malcolmmmd1@gmail.com
to reserve a spot on this course.



HELP

With the Flea Market coming up the club will need people to man the club tables on the Saturday June 4. If you can spare an hour or so from shopping The club has a lot of surplus gear to sell. We also need people to test and value some of the surplus gear. If you can take on some of these things please contact the executive at: executive@halifax-arc.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for APRIL 2022

Good evening all amateurs and radio enthusiasts...It's May and all the April showers has definitely brought out the May flowers. This is the time to get antennas checked - guys tightened and get ready for new additions from the Flea Market on June 04/22. Hopefully this will be the beginning of a new summer some what free of covid though many people are still being very cautious and not really going to large gatherings.

I will be stepping back a bit from the club - my wife has Cancer and my time forward is dedicated to her and her recovery over the next several months. I will be updating Jason, VE1PYE - 1st VP on the activities that I am involved with. As a team, the executive will continue to back each other up and to conduct club business as usual.

As a follow up to the above, I WILL NOT BE PART OF FIELD DAY - WE NEED a team lead for this event. To date no one has stepped forward to take it on. Simply put, should no one come forward the event will be/can be run from each class D or E home station and the scores submitted as personal logs with participation marked as THE HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. These rules are clarified on page 4.

The ARRL says that this is an "EMEGENCY PREPAREDNESS TEST". I fully believe that some members of the HATS group SHOULD TAKE THIS ON. It is a good way to find out just how ready the group is to perform the set up - operation and take down. It is a great exercise for the net control operators and operators in general to hone there skills in a pile up. The higher the score is the better you look in the eyes of EMO because they now know how you perform under pressure. Yes it is a fun time where the teams are together working side by side but becomes deadly serious when the 3pm start time begins. HATS IS A SERIOUS TEAM and need to prove their ability to perform.

There have been no changes for the work at Station 50 or Cowie Hill. Work plans have been developed and timing remains as the only issue to getting it done. I expect that Bill, VE1MR will soon call for a work party for Cowie Hill to pull cables, test antennas and change out at least 2 antennas.

The May General Meeting will see a special presentation to Jack Leahey's (VE1ZZ) family at the club beginning at 1930 hrs. We will do this presentation via zoom. The family has requested that there not be a lot of people present due to covid so some of the executive members will be there. Al Penny representing RAC will do the presentation and of course there will be pictures taken for the club and RAC.

There is not much happening otherwise. The Flea Market is taking shape and if you want a table or two, contact John Bignell ASAP. The museum event is still on hold even as ships arrive in port (155 due in). Our plans for a 90th Anniversary gathering is still waiting for some one to take this on even though it seems a long way off there is so much to do that time will go by quickly.

The executive needs you, our club members -- THE CLUB NEEDS YOU to come forward to make these events happen. I know that many of you have "done it before" and our younger members have families and may not be familiar with what needs to be done. But that's where the "old timers" come in, guidance.. we are there for our younger people to learn the ropes in order to get things done. If we fail too do these things, then our club will dissolve and become a group of rag tag operators - no qsl bureau - no events and no EMO.

I DO NOT THINK WE WANT THAT TOO HAPPEN.

That is all for this month and as before as things change I will continue to update you all. I know my time will be limited over the next several months.

Each of you stay safe and well and, hopefully will see you at the Flea Market.

73, Brian Allen, VA1CC - President HARC

Since Covid started the ARRL has changed some Field Day rules to allow home stations to accumulate more points and participate in a club score. Some of the rule changes are below but you should download and read the ARRL Field Day rules.

If you are going to indicate club affiliation use

"The Halifax Amateur Radio Club"

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-rules>

4.5. (Class C) Mobile: Stations in vehicles capable of operating while in motion and normally operated in this manner. This includes maritime and aeronautical mobile. If the Class C station is being powered from a car battery or alternator, it qualifies for emergency power but does not qualify for the multiplier of 5, as the alternator/battery system constitutes a motor-driven generating system.

Class C stations are now limited to 100 W Peak Envelope Power (PEP) transmitter output.

4.6. (Class D) Home stations: Stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. NEW for 2022: Class D stations can count contacts with any other station for QSO credit.

Class D stations are limited to 100 W Peak Envelope Power (PEP) transmitter output.

4.7. (Class E) Home stations - Emergency power: Same as Class D, but using emergency power for transmitters and receivers. Class E may work all Field Day stations.

Class E stations are now limited to 100 W Peak Envelope Power (PEP) transmitter output.

7. Scoring: Scores are based on the total number of QSO points times the power multiplier corresponding to the highest power level under which any contact was made during the Field Day period plus the bonus points.

An aggregate club score will also be

published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions). Participants from any Class can optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day. For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2022 Field Day -- Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station -- both can include the radio club's name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.

HARC May 18, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

Welcome:

Acceptance of the May 2022 Agenda:

Motion by:

Second by:

Carried: yes no

Acceptance of the April 20, 2022 General Meeting Minutes:

Motion by:

Second by:

Carried: yes no

Silent keys:

Carl P. Laffin, VE1JDT – Pictou N.S. – April 12/22

James A. "Skip" Talbot, VE9JAT – Moncton N.B. – April 13/22

Robert f. Springer, VE9ROB – Waterville, N.B. – APRIL 16/22

Rose Ida J. Ellis, VE9IDA – Oromocto N.B. – APRIL 25/22

Correspondence: Brian, VA1CC

PRESIDENT REPORT: Brian, VA1CC

TREASURER REPORT: Bill Simm, VA1ALW

Motion by: Bill, VA1ALW

Second by:

Carried: yes no

APPROX.1930 HRS:

HALL OF FAME SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY AL PENNY- RAC EASTERN CANADA REPRESENTATIVE TO JACK LEAHEY - VE1ZZ - FAMILY

STATION MANAGER REPORT: Don Trotter, VE1DTR:

EDUCATION UPDATE: Jason Ingraham, VE1PYE

HATS UPDATE: Gary Murphy VA1GGM

SARS UPDATE: David George, VE1AJP

OLD BUSINESS:

STATION 50 TOWER update:

COWIE HILL update:

SAFETY update:

NEW BUSINESS:

Flea Market update:

Field Day June 2022:

90th Anniversary:

Possible new repeater location:

ADJOURNMENT AT:

ENTERTAINMENT: Ritchie Long, VE1RL introduction of speaker

Respectfully submitted: Brian Allen, VA1CC President- HARC

**Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Virtual General Meeting Minutes
20 April 2022**

1. Welcome to the HARC virtual Zoom monthly meeting for April 20, 2022: The virtual meeting was called to order by President VA1CC Brian at approximately 1907.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda:

A request was made to accept the April agenda. Jason, VE1PYE, moved for the agenda to be accepted, Scott, VE1QD seconded. The motion was approved virtually, 22/22.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

A request was made to accept the March 2022 minutes as printed in the Reflector. Bill, VE1MR moved the minutes to be accepted, Tim, VE1XR seconded. The minutes were approved 23/23.

4. Report of any Silent Keys:

The following amateurs in the Maritimes have passed since the last club meeting of 16 March 2022.

Rose Ida J. Ellis, VE9IDA

April 25th, 2022, Oromocto NB

Robert F. Springer, VE9ROB

Apr.16th, 2022, Waterville NB

James A. "Skip" Talbot, VE9JAT

April 13th, 2022, Moncton NB

Earl P. Laffin, VE1JDT

April 12th, 2022, Pictou NS

Frederick J.A. Boddington, VE1MW

April 6th, 2022, Saint John NB

Walter M. "Marty" Raine, VE1AE

April 4th, 2022, Halifax NS

Robert B. MacDonald, VY2ROB

March 29th, 2022, Stratford PE

Willis A. Bates, VA1WAB

March 29th, 2022, Westville NS

Stephen H. Behune, VE1IU

March 24th, 2022, Sydney NS

Additional information can be viewed at: maritimeamateur.ca

5. Correspondence:

Nothing to report.

6. President's Report:

Brian, VA1CC noted that World

Amateur Radio day was April 18th, band conditions were poor. He reported he has had a run in with Covid, getting better.

7. Treasurer's Report:

Bill, VA1ALW reported the financial activity for the month of March and gave a detailed report of the monthly income and expenses as well as reporting the opening balance and closing balance for the month.

Bill, VA1ALW moved to accept the March financials, Don, VE1DTR seconded, the motion passed virtually, 23/23.

8. Station Managers Report:

Don, VE1DTR reported there is a security issue with the RigPi that needs resolving. There are 2 new desktop PCs for the FTDX3000s with 27" monitors. 4 new laptops are configured for Field Day with N1MM+. Configuration is 3 pages, single spaced, taking about 3 hours per machine! In addition there is a new laptop for the QSL Bureau. The new 30' satellite tower is up and ready to receive antennas and cabling.

9. Education Report:

Jason, VE1PYE reported 1 inquiry last month and they were forwarded to RAC. RAC is now conducting all the license training virtually. Brian is working with Industry Canada regarding a person with disabilities and administering an exam.

10. HATS/SAR report:

HATS report from Gary, VA1GGM that there is a message handling course May 14th by Tom, VE1GTC. SAR report Dave, VE1AJP reported receiving a lost person call, fortunately he had his tracking device on and was found in short order.

Safety Officer Report:

Malcolm, VA1MMD reported that the club gear has been inspected and some new lanyards have been acquired. Quotes are still being looked at for the high rescue kit.

There will be a climbers course in the near future, firming up the date.

Old Business:

Station 50 tower-update: the tower is up, needs cabling, building entry and antennas, more to follow. Project plans are in place, thanks to Bill, VE1MR, for the new tower and the Station 50 main tower.

Cowie Hill antenna work - Project plan in place, thanks to Bill, VE1MR - need weather to cooperate!

New Business:

Flea market: It's a go for June 4th! Contact John Bignell, VE1JMB for a table, \$10, and to volunteer to support this event.

Field Day: A coordinator is still needed for this event. Please contact Brian, VA1CC. June is coming up quickly!

HARC 90th anniversary: Brian noted a person is still needed to lead this historic event.

Possible new Repeater Site Hwy 333 (Prospect Road) near Blind Bay - still under investigation.

Discussion: How could HARC assist an amateur Radio family from the Ukraine? Support existing relocation groups within the Immigration Community. Scott VE1QD will send a name to Brian that he knows.

Round table:

There is a Tuesday evening informal get together at Tim Hortons, 7 PM at the Akerly Blvd location in Dartmouth, drop on by, thank you Gordon, VE1GKY! Jason, VE1PYE thoughts on having a Vintage Station available for the 90th Anniversary. Brit Fader's Collins 75A3 is at the Club.

Adjournment at: Adjournment of the HARC business portion of the meeting moved by Bill, VE1MR at approx. 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Roger Stein, VA1RST, HARC Secretary

The RAC Challenge Award: An Overview

RAC Challenge 2021 logoRadio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to present a new Canadian Portable Operations Challenge Award for RAC members.

The objective of the new “RAC Challenge Award” is to recognize and encourage portable operations by RAC members from locations throughout Canada.

The new program began on Canada Day, July 1, 2021 and we hope it will become an annual event for RAC members.

Portable Operations and Features of the RAC Challenge

Note: the following information is tentative as the new Awards program is still being organized so please stay tuned to this webpage for future updates. For more information please see the RAC Challenge FAQ webpage.

Portable Operations

Portable operations are those in which Amateurs take their equipment, antennas and power supply to a location away from their home station to operate. This includes mobile stations, backpackers, DXpeditions and participation in events such as those described below:

Parks On The Air (POTA):
A worldwide program of park activations – <https://parksontheair.com/>

Quebec Parks On The Air (QcPOTA):
April 1 to December 31
Field Day: June 25-26

There are several other programs that celebrate portable operations including Summits on the Air (SOTA), Islands on the Air (IOTA) and the International Lighthouses and Lightships Weekend.

Features of the “RAC Challenge”

The new “RAC Challenge” will recognize all portable operations in which RAC members participate and will have similar features as a contest. Amateur Radio contests in VHF, UHF and the Microwave bands all have categories for “Rovers” – who move from grid square to grid square and “Backpackers” – who seek out hilltops from which to operate with highly portable equipment and an-

tennas.

For many satellite operators, making contact with as many grid squares as possible is a mark of success. Some of those operators go on satellite DXpeditions to activate rare grids or operate from the intersections of grids to offer multiple grids with a single contact. In addition to being fun, these activities provide an opportunity for Amateurs to experience what is required to set up and operate under challenging conditions – valuable experience for emergency preparedness.

Guidelines and Procedures for the RAC Challenge Award

Note: the following information is tentative as the new Awards program is still being organized so please stay tuned to this webpage for future updates.

Objective:

To promote portable operations from locations across Canada.

Who:

RAC members operating from any portable location in Canada.

What:

Any temporary location, using equipment brought to the site, with antennas deployed for the purpose and duration of the operation. This includes Mobile stations. This challenge is intended to complement and support any of the award programs mentioned in these rules and any contest activities where portable operations are a feature.

Where:

Anywhere in Canada. It could be from a mountain top, a kayak in a lake or any location away from your usual home address. DXpeditions, family camping trips, operating from a cottage or hotel, or dedicated, radio-oriented deployments or a rest stop on a long highway trip – they all count.

When:

January 1 through 31 December each year, with monthly and annual leaderboards. For 2021 only, the eligible period will be from July 1 through 31 December 31.

Certificates will be awarded to the five top-scoring activators each month and the 10 top activators each year.

How:

After each operation has been completed participants will be able to submit a summary of their portable operations by using a form on the RAC website. Only RAC members will be able to submit scores, but anyone can view the leaderboards. The RAC Challenge will operate on the honour system, but the adjudicator may request logs or other evidence of your operation to validate awards.

Bands:

All Amateur bands may be used for the RAC Challenge. Each different Amateur satellite you use counts as a separate band.

Modes: - Four modes:

CW

Analog voice (SSB, FM, AM, etc.)

Digital data (RTTY, FT8, PSK31, etc.)

Digital voice (DMR, D-Star, Fusion, etc.)

Multipliers:

To encourage portable operators to go to multiple locations, over the course of a month, participants can accumulate one “multiplier” point for each new:

Parks on the Air (POTA) entity

Islands On The Air (IOTA) group

Summit in the Summits On the Air (SOTA) program

Lighthouse in Canada – see the World

List of Lights provided by the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society (ARLHS)

Maidenhead Grid locator (4-digit grids only)

Province and Territory

St Paul Island and Sable Island

Multi-op stations:

The contact total for any multi-operator activation must be divided equally among all the operators including those providing support to the operation. Each score share will be attributed to each operator equally and individually. This means your participation in your club’s ARRL Field Day operation could count for your personal score in the RAC Challenge.

Important Links:

RAC Challenge Registration Form
<https://www.rac.ca/rac-challenge-form/>

RAC Challenge FAQ page
<https://www.rac.ca/rac-challenge-faq/>

Leaderboard and Scores

<https://www.rac.ca/rac-challenge-scores/>